

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1 A system and method for automatically classifying lists of telephone numbers into
one or more predetermined categories is provided. The system initiates calls to each
telephone number. A specific request is made of the callee, which confirms the number
5 as being "live-answered." The system uses speech recognition software to compare
audible sounds received on the other end of the line to a plurality of spoken messages
to classify each telephone number that has been classified as "not live-answered" for
future use or exclusion. One embodiment of the system records each telephone call,
10 enabling the process to be performed using a single call to each telephone number.